

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3996

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2010

MATERNAL DEATHS

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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of maternal deaths taking place in the country every year;
- (b) whether there is still widespread lack of family planning information and services resulting in deaths;
- (c) if so, the details of new family planning programmes launched by the Government during the last three years; and
- (d) the extent by which the new programmes are effective?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (d) The data on maternity related deaths is made available by Registrar General of India (RGI) through its Sample Registration System(SRS) in the form of Maternal Mortality Ratio(MMR). This data is brought out for every three year period by the RGI. The latest available data on MMR is for the period 2004-06.

The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) for the country as per the SRS data has come down from 301 per 100,000 live births in the years 2001-03 to 254 per 100,000 live births in the years 2004-06.

This translates into-an approximate number of 68,000 maternal deaths per year in the country.

As per the Report of RGI titled `Maternal Mortality in India; 1997-2003 trends, causes and risk factors`, major causes of maternal deaths in the country are Haemorrhage (38%), Sepsis (11%), Hypertensive Disorders (5%), Obstructed Labour (5%), Abortion (8%) and Other Conditions (34%) , which includes Anaemia.

As per the District Level Household Survey (DLHS-3) during 2007-08, 98.8% of the currently married women aged 15-49 years were aware of at-least one modern method of Family Planning.

The steps taken by the Government of India for encouraging Family Planning in the country to stabilize the population growth as under:

The fixed day, static services in family planning at DH/ FRUs/CHCs/ 24x7 PHCs in the states, minilap for female sterilisation., Post Partum sterilization, promoting - male participation, 10 year IUD-380-A as a long term spacing method, emergency Contraceptive Pills,to reduce the unsafe abortions, training and developing human resource for increasing the pool of service providers, enhancing the compensation package for acceptors and providers of sterilization services, accrediting private providers for provision of sterilisation services, introducing the National Family Planning Insurance Scheme and increasing the basket of choice.

Due to these initiatives the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has come down from 3 in 2003 to 2.6 in 2008.